

wherein each of B, B', B'' represents a [purine,] 7-deazapurine, or pyrimidine moiety covalently bonded to the C1'-position of the sugar moiety, provided that whenever B, B' or B'' is [purine or] 7-deazapurine, the sugar moiety is attached at the N⁹-position of the [purine or] 7-deazapurine, and whenever B, B' or B'' is pyrimidine the sugar moiety is attached at the N¹-position of the pyrimidine;

wherein A comprises at least three carbon atoms and represents at least one component of a signalling moiety capable of producing a detectable signal;

wherein B and A are ^{covalently} attached directly or indirectly through a linkage group, said linkage group not interfering substantially with the characteristic ability of said compound to hybridize with said nucleic acid or of A to be detected;

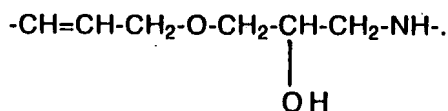
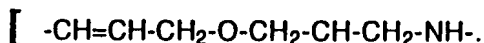
wherein [if B is purine, A is attached to the 8-position thereof,] if B is 7-deazapurine, A is attached to the 7-position thereof, and if B is pyrimidine, A is attached to the 5-position thereof;

wherein m, n and p are integers, provided that m and p are not simultaneously 0 and provided further n is never 0, and

wherein z represents H or HO-; and

(b) detecting said compound or compounds so as to detect said nucleic acid.

³¹ 183. (Amended) ²⁹ The method of claim 181 wherein the linkage group comprises the moiety



Add new claim 185 as follows:

³⁷ ³² 185. (New) ³⁶ The method of claim 130 wherein when said microorganism is Streptococcus pyrogenes or Neisseria meningitidis, said antibiotic is penicillin, wherein when said microorganism is Staphylococcus aureus, Candida albicans, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Streptococcus pyrogenes, or Neisseria gonorrhoeae, said antibiotic is a tetracycline, and wherein when said microorganism is Mycobacterium tuberculosis, said antibiotic is an aminoglycoside.

NP NK Cancel claims 151, 141 and 184, without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of any of these claims in a duly filed continuation application.

Enz-1 (Div. III)

claims 33 - 36